

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES<sup>1</sup>

CHAPTER

1. ALCOHOL.
2. FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.
3. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON.
4. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET.
5. INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL.
6. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES.
7. TRESPASSING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC.
8. MISCELLANEOUS.
9. EMERGENCY ALARMS.

CHAPTER 1

ALCOHOL<sup>2</sup>

SECTION

- 11-101. Drinking beer, etc., on streets, etc.  
11-102. Minors in beer places.

11-101. Drinking beer, etc., on streets, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drink or consume, or have an open can or bottle of beer in or on any public street, alley, avenue, highway, sidewalk, public park, public school ground or other public place unless the place has a beer permit and license for on premises consumption. (1975 Code, § 10-228)

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

- Animals and fowls: title 10.
- Housing and utilities: title 12.
- Fireworks and explosives: title 7.
- Traffic offenses: title 15.
- Streets and sidewalks (non-traffic): title 16.

<sup>2</sup>Municipal code reference

- Sale of alcoholic beverages, including beer: title 8.

State law reference

- See Tennessee Code Annotated § 33-8-203 (Arrest for Public Intoxication, cities may not pass separate legislation).

11-102. Minors in beer places. No person under twenty-one (21) years of age shall loiter in or around, work in, or otherwise frequent any place where beer is sold at retail for consumption on the premises. (1975 Code, § 10-222, modified)

CHAPTER 2

FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.

SECTION

11-201. Fortune telling, etc.

11-201. Fortune telling, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to hold himself forth to the public as a fortune teller, clairvoyant, hypnotist, spiritualist, palmist, phrenologist, or other mystic endowed with supernatural powers. (1975 Code, § 10-234)

CHAPTER 3

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON

SECTION

11-301. Assault and battery.

11-301. Assault and battery. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit an assault or an assault and battery. (1975 Code, § 10-201)

## CHAPTER 4

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

## SECTION

11-401. Disturbing the peace.

11-402. Anti-noise regulations.

11-401. Disturbing the peace. No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control. (1975 Code, § 10-202)

11-402. Anti-noise regulations. Subject to the provisions of this section, the creating of any unreasonably loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noise is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity, or duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual, or in disturbance of the public peace and welfare, is prohibited.

(1) Miscellaneous prohibited noises enumerated. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:

(a) Blowing horns. The sounding of any horn or signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, streetcar or other vehicle while not in motion except as a danger signal if another vehicle is approaching, apparently out of control, or if in motion, only as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and deceleration of the vehicle is intended; the creation by means of any such signal device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time.

(b) Radios, phonographs, etc. The playing of any radio, phonograph, or any musical instrument or sound device, including but not limited to loudspeakers or other devices for reproduction or amplification of sound, either independently of or in connection with motion pictures, radio, or television, in such a manner or with such volume, particularly during the hours between 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office or hospital, or in any dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(c) Yelling, shouting, hooting, etc. Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., or at any time or place so as to annoy or

disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of any persons in any hospital, dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(d) Pets. The keeping of any animal, bird, or fowl which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity.

(e) Use of vehicle. The use of any automobile, motorcycle, truck, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded, or in such manner as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise.

(f) Blowing whistles. The blowing of any steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper city authorities.

(g) Exhaust discharge. To discharge into the open air the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor vehicle, or boat engine, except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(h) Building operations. The erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building in any residential area or section or the construction or repair of streets and highways in any residential area or section, other than between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. on week days, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector granted for a period while the emergency continues not to exceed thirty (30) days. If the building inspector should determine that the public health and safety will not be impaired by the erection, demolition, alteration, or repair of any building or the excavation of streets and highways between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., and if he shall further determine that loss or inconvenience would result to any party in interest through delay, he may grant permission for such work to be done between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the process of the work.

(i) Noises near schools, hospitals, churches, etc. The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any hospital or adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church, or court while the same is in session.

(j) Loading and unloading operations. The creation of any loud and excessive noise in connection with the loading or unloading of any vehicle or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates, and other containers.

(k) Noises to attract attention. The use of any drum, loudspeaker, or other instrument or device emitting noise for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance, show, or sale or display of merchandise.

(1) Loudspeakers or amplifiers on vehicles. The use of mechanical loudspeakers or amplifiers on trucks or other moving or standing vehicles for advertising or other purposes.

(2) Exceptions. None of the terms or prohibitions hereof shall apply to or be enforced against:

(a) City vehicles. Any vehicle of the city while engaged upon necessary public business.

(b) Repair of streets, etc. Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways at night, by or on behalf of the city, the county, or the state, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impracticable to perform such work during the day.

(c) Noncommercial and nonprofit use of loudspeakers or amplifiers. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers in the course of public addresses which are noncommercial in character and in the course of advertising functions sponsored by nonprofit organizations. However, no such use shall be made until a permit therefor is secured from the recorder. Hours for the use of an amplifier or public address system will be designated in the permit so issued and the use of such systems shall be restricted to the hours so designated in the permit. (1975 Code, § 10-233)

## CHAPTER 5

INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL

## SECTION

- 11-501. Escape from custody or confinement.
- 11-502. Impersonating a government officer or employee.
- 11-503. False emergency alarms.
- 11-504. Resisting or interfering with a policeman or fireman.
- 11-505. Coercing people not to work.

11-501. Escape from custody or confinement. It shall be unlawful for any person under arrest or otherwise in custody of or confined by the city to escape or attempt to escape, or for any other person to assist or encourage such person to escape or attempt to escape from such custody or confinement. (1975 Code, § 10-209)

11-502. Impersonating a government officer or employee. No person other than an official police officer of the city shall wear the uniform, apparel, or badge, or carry any identification card or other insignia of office like or similar to, or a colorable imitation of that adopted and worn or carried by the official police officers of the city. Furthermore, no person shall deceitfully impersonate or represent that he is any government officer or employee. (1975 Code, § 10-211)

11-503. False emergency alarms. It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally make, turn in, or give a false alarm of fire, or of need for police or ambulance assistance, or to aid or abet in the commission of such act. (1975 Code, § 10-217)

11-504. Resisting or interfering with a policeman or fireman. It shall be unlawful for any person to resist or in any way interfere with or attempt to interfere with any policeman or fireman while such officer is in the discharge or apparent discharge of his duty. (1975 Code, § 10-210)

11-505. Coercing people not to work. It shall be unlawful for any person in association or agreement with any other person to assemble, congregate, or meet together in the vicinity of any premises where other persons are employed or reside for the purpose of inducing any such other person by threats, coercion, intimidation, or acts of violence to quit or refrain from entering a place of lawful employment. It is expressly not the purpose of this section to prohibit peaceful picketing. (1975 Code, § 10-230)

## CHAPTER 6

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES

## SECTION

11-601. Air rifles, etc.

11-602. Throwing missiles.

11-603. Weapons and firearms generally.

11-601. Air rifles, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person in the city to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a metal bullet or pellet, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method. (1975 Code, § 10-213)

11-602. Throwing missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously throw any stone, snowball, bottle, or any other missile upon or at any vehicle, building, tree, or other public or private property or upon or at any person. (1975 Code, § 10-214)

11-603. Weapons and firearms generally. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry in any manner whatever, with the intent to go armed, any razor, dirk, knife, blackjack, brass knucks, pistol, revolver, or any other dangerous weapon or instrument except the army or navy pistol which shall be carried openly in the hand. However, the foregoing prohibition shall not apply to members of the united States Armed Forces carrying such weapons as are prescribed by applicable regulations nor to any officer or policeman engaged in his official duties, in the execution of process, or while searching for or engaged in arresting persons suspected of having committed crimes. Furthermore, the prohibition shall not apply to persons who may have been summoned by such officer or policeman to assist in the discharge of his said duties, nor to any conductor of any passenger or freight train of any steam railroad while he is on duty. It shall also be unlawful for any unauthorized person to discharge a firearm within the city. (1975 Code, § 10-212)

## CHAPTER 7

TRESPASSING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF AND INTERFERENCE  
WITH TRAFFIC

## SECTION

11-701. Trespassing on trains.

11-702. Malicious mischief.

11-703. Interference with traffic.

11-701. Trespassing on trains. It shall be unlawful for any person to climb, jump, step, stand upon, or cling to, or in any other way attach himself to any locomotive engine or railroad car unless he works for the railroad corporation and is acting the scope of his employment or unless he is a lawful passenger or is otherwise lawfully entitled to be on such vehicle. (1975 Code, § 10-221)

11-702. Malicious mischief. It shall be unlawful and deemed to be malicious mischief for any person to willfully, maliciously, or wantonly damage, deface, destroy, conceal, tamper with, remove, or withhold real or personal property which does not belong to him. (1975 Code, § 10-225)

11-703. Interference with traffic. It shall be unlawful for any person to stand, sit, or engage in any activity whatever on any public street, sidewalk, bridge, or public ground in such a manner as to prevent, obstruct, or interfere unreasonably with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon. (1975 Code, § 10-232)

## CHAPTER 8

MISCELLANEOUS

## SECTION

11-801. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

11-802. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.

11-803. Posting notices, etc.

11-804. Curfew for minors.

11-805. Election offenses.

11-801. Abandoned refrigerators, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to leave in any place accessible to children any abandoned, unattended, unused, or discarded refrigerator, icebox, or other container with any type latching or locking door without first removing therefrom the latch, lock, or door. (1975 Code, § 10-223)

11-802. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit to be maintained on property owned or occupied by him any cave, well, cistern, or other such opening in the ground which is dangerous to life and limb without an adequate cover or safeguard. (1975 Code, § 10-231)

11-803. Posting notices, etc. No person shall fasten, in any way, any show-card, poster, or other advertising device upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. (1975 Code, § 10-226)

11-804. Curfew for minors. It shall be unlawful for any minor, under the age of eighteen (18) years, to be abroad at night after 11:30 P.M. unless upon a legitimate errand for, or accompanied by, a parent, guardian, or other adult person having lawful custody of such minor. (1975 Code, § 10-224)

11-805. Election offenses. It shall be unlawful for any person to post cards, circulars, or like material on any telephone or light pole situated on the public streets, alleys, or rights-of-way, or on other public property within the corporate limits of the city, which cards, circulars or the like, advertise in any manner the candidacy of any person or persons for public office, or solicit votes for him.

It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit votes for himself or others on the public streets or other public property while votes are being cast within the corporate limits of the city in any public election, unless such person shall be at least 300 feet away from the front door of the building in which such election is being held. (1975 Code, § 10-235)

CHAPTER 9

EMERGENCY ALARMS

SECTION

11-901. Definitions.

11-902. Schedule of notice, warnings, penalty and costs.

11-901. Definitions. (1) "False emergency alarm." Any signal actuated by an emergency alarm to which the police and fire departments respond which is not the result of fire or other actual emergency and not caused by a violent act of nature.

(2) "Owner" and/or "operator." A person or persons who resides in, owns or operates a business or residence in which an emergency alarm is connected. (as added by Ord. #03-09, Nov. 2003)

11-902. Schedule of notice, warnings, penalty and costs. The following schedule of notice, warning, penalties and costs shall be assessed to the owner and/or operators of emergency alarm systems for false emergency alarms transmitted to the police and fire departments within any year.

- First false alarm - No action
- Second false alarm- Notice letter informing the owner or operator of the alarm system of the provisions of this chapter.
- Third false alarm - Warning letter and notice to insure that the alarm system in proper working order. Once the third false emergency alarm has been received the police or fire chief shall cause to be sent, by certified mail, a notice to the owner and/or operator that further false emergency alarms will result in the imposition of a penalty and or costs of providing such service.
- Fourth false alarm - A fine of \$50.00 shall be imposed.
- Fifth and more - A fine of \$50.00 for each false alarm and the actual costs of such response by the police or fire department, as calculated and set annually, including the costs of equipment, fuel, personnel, administration and other such factor as determined by the police or fire chief. (as added by Ord. #03-09, Nov. 2003)